

Provisional Vital Statistics for December 2008

Live births decreased slightly in December as 6,690 Missouri babies were born compared with 6,771 one year earlier. Cumulative births for the 12 months ending with December also decreased, from 81,883 in 2007 to 80,861 in 2008.

Marriages decreased slightly in December and for the 12 months ending with December. The 2008 provisional marriage count of 40,115 is the lowest since 1965.

Deaths decreased slightly in December, but increased by 4 percent for the 12 months ending with December. The provisional count of 56,092 deaths for 2008 is the highest death total on record.

Dissolutions of marriage increased in December, but decreased for the 12 months ending with December. The marriage to divorce ratio increased from 1.82 in 2007 to 1.84 in 2008.

The **Natural increase** in December was 1,947 (6,690 births minus 4,743 deaths). For the 12 months ending with December, the natural increase declined by 11.4 percent.

Infant deaths increased in December, but decreased for the 12 months ending with December. For the 12 months ending with December, the infant death rate decreased from 7.5 to 7.1 per 1,000 live births. The provisional infant death count of 571 is the lowest annual total since 2001.

PROVISIONAL RESIDENT VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE STATE OF MISSOURI

<u>Item</u>	<u>December</u>				<u>12 months ending with December</u>									
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>				<u>Rate*</u>					
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	
Live Births	6,771	6,690	13.6	13.4	78,547	81,353	81,883	80,861	13.5	13.6	13.9	13.9	13.7	
Deaths	4,811	4,743	9.6	9.5	54,324	54,475	53,937	56,092	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.5	
Natural increase	1,960	1,947	3.9	3.9	24,223	26,878	27,946	24,769	4.2	4.2	4.6	4.8	4.2	
Marriages	2,589	2,471	5.2	4.9	40,675	40,399	40,405	40,115	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	
Dissolutions	1,744	1,845	3.5	3.7	21,013	22,358	22,149	21,859	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.7	
Infant deaths	42	50	6.2	7.5	588	599	613	571	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.1	
Population base (in thousands)	....	....	5,878	5,912	....	....	....	....	5,745	5,788	5,838	5,878	5,912

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1,000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Beginning with provisional July 2006 data numbers and rates are based on month of event rather than month of report. This will result in a delay in reporting, but will more accurately reflect current trends.

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